

*Numerals*

- Q -puni, self; Chim p'un, 1.  
 Q iskay, 2; Chim xoku, 2.  
 Q kinsa, earlier kimsa, 3; Chim xodai, 3.  
 Q tawa, 4; Hokan (as reconstructed by Sapir) \*axwa, 4.

*Consonant Prefixes*

Several consonant prefixes, isolated in Quechua with great difficulty, have been found, and are here presented together, since they have bearing together on connection with Salinan, one of the Hokan languages noted for development of such consonants.

Cajamarca Q qewa, plant; Q iwa, plant; Sal k-, intransitive, less commonly transitive, rarely indicative of plural subject. The presence of initial q can also be interpreted as in place of initial ' , unwritten in the present paper.

Q p-ilyu, crown; Q ilya-y, to shine; Q m-alya, earth prepared for sowing; Q halyma-y, to bank earth around a plant; Sal p-, transitive, less commonly intransitive, rarely indicative of singular subject.

Q saqe-y, to leave; Q haqe-y, to leave; Sal se-, substantive.

Q t-awa, 4; Hokan (as reconstructed by Sapir) \*axwa, 4; (but compare Yana daumi-, 4); Q t-axy, ball-excrement; Q aka, excre-

ment; Q te-'aqo, white clay; Q aqo, sand; Sal t-, nominal.

## WORD ORDER

Word order has in each one of the Hokan languages an established precedent. Initial and final positions in the sentence are the most emphatic. In Quechua the standard word order is ovs, in which o stands for objective, v for verb, s for subjective. The interrogative postfix -taq, which has been given above, is the only postfix of sentential stratum presented in this paper, and imparts interrogation to a word or to an entire sentence, a modulation which could also be executed by voice alone. Chimariko has two standard word orders: svo and sov.

## RÉSUMÉ

Experience in the evaluating of Quechua words for comparison has been like that of the geologist who explores waterway cobbles. The interior of the cobbles has to be looked into and anchored before provenience is certain. As Quechua words become in the future better analyzed, their connection with Hokan forms will become more certain and standardized.

ZOOLOGY.—*Another Mexican snake of the genus Pliocercus.*<sup>1</sup> HOBART M. SMITH, University of Rochester. (Communicated by HERBERT FRIEDMANN.)

Through the courtesy of the authorities of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, of the University of California, and particularly of Thomas Rodgers, I have had the privilege of examining and describing an interesting specimen of *Pliocercus elapoides*, which not only extends the known range of the genus northward about 300 miles from central Veracruz to central Tamaulipas and into another faunal area, but also represents a race distinct from any known previously.

*Pliocercus elapoides celatus*, n. subsp.

*Holotype*.—Mus. Vert. Zool. 24689, collected by Meldon Embury at Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico, on June 31, 1937.

*Diagnosis*.—Like *P. e. elapoides*, but outer black rings of each triad on body greatly re-

duced, shorter than yellow rings, sometimes absent; ventrals perhaps fewer (126 in a male as compared with 128 to 131); black rings on body perhaps more numerous (12 as compared with 9 or 10) in males. Like *P. e. schmidti*, except snout uniformly black (except at lip); nuchal black collar not involving labials or parietals and covering 8 instead of 5 scale lengths on nape; and the primary black rings longer, involving 3 or 4 ventrals and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or 5 dorsal scale lengths.

*Description of holotype*.—Head scales normal; portion of rostral visible from above about as long as median suture between internasals and about two-thirds the greatest length of internasals; latter two-thirds as long as broad, a little more than half as long as prefrontals; frontal pentagonal, the anterior edge forming a slight convexity, sides markedly convergent, posterior edges meeting at an acute angle;

<sup>1</sup> Received September 15, 1943.

frontal longer (4 mm) than its distance from tip of snout (3.3 mm) and posterior median edge of parietals (3 mm); nasal completely divided, posterior section a little larger and higher than anterior; loreal about as large as anterior section of nasal, a little longer than high; a large upper and a very small lower preocular; latter separating third labial from orbit, former widely separated from frontal; 2 postoculars, lower two-thirds size of upper; temporals 1-1-2, the anterior longest; 8-8 supralabials, the last 2 subequal in size and larger than others; 9-9 infralabials, 5 in contact with anterior chinshields, 2 with posterior, the anterior in contact medially with its mate, 6th largest; chinshields equally elongate, anterior slightly the broader; posterior chinshields in contact for about half their length; 2 small scales between chinshields and 1st ventral.

Dorsal scales smooth, pitless, in 17-17-17 rows; ventrals 126; tail tip missing; anal divided; snout-vent length 230 mm; male.

Black head cap extending posteriorly to tip of frontal and anterior tips of parietals, uniform on snout except near lip, extending laterally to about the middle of the first 5 infralabials; edge of entire upper lip light; a light collar following this, presumably yellow in life; a black nape collar involving tips of ventrals, occupying 8 scale lengths dorsally, and involving extreme posterior tips of parietals, the posterior parts of the tertiary temporals, but not the labials. Eleven other, similar dark bands on body, all complete, involving 3 or 4 scale lengths ventrally and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or 5 dorsally, separated from each other by areas about equal to or a little greater than their length. A narrow light ring bordering each black ring, occupying little more than one-half of 1 scale length. Between the yellow rings are red bands in which most of the dorsal scales are black-tipped; this black spotting is usually, but not invariably, more concentrated next to the yellow bands, thus forming the effect of secondary black rings; these secondary rings are indistinct, however, narrower than the yellow rings, and sometimes not evident. On the tail the pattern is much the same, except that the

secondary black rings are more distinct. In no place do the secondary black rings extend onto the ventral surface. The belly and subcaudal surfaces are unpigmented except for the primary black rings; the chin and lower labial regions are also immaculate. The red rings are evident ventrally, however.

*Remarks.*—This specimen is markedly different from *e. elapoides*, the nearest race geographically, particularly in the reduction of the secondary black rings (see diagnosis). It resembles *e. schmidtii* more than any other race, but in addition to being geographically distant has narrower primary black rings and a mottled snout; *e. schmidtii* and *e. celatus* may be considered either as parallelisms or as slightly differentiated forms of a more primitive and more widely distributed stock. The latter alternative appears the more attractive, for although *e. elapoides* is centrally situated between the other two races, its pattern is relatively highly specialized and is subject to frequent bizarre variation. *P. e. laticollaris* is another slightly differentiated form similar to *e. schmidtii* and *e. celatus*, but having incomplete black rings and more numerous infralabials.

With the addition of the present race to the list of known forms, it is of considerable interest to observe that every biotic province on the Atlantic coast of Mexico is now represented by its distinctive race of *P. elapoides*. While the details of the distribution of the four Atlantic races in Mexico are not known, a strong correlation with the four corresponding provinces is indicated, although a certain amount of discrepancy in exact boundary lines of races and provinces is to be expected. Although the east coast subspecies of *P. elapoides* are now perhaps completely outlined, at least with no further additions to be anticipated, the races of the Pacific coastal regions are very poorly known. That two or three races remain to be discovered and defined in that region is highly probable. Whereas eight species and subspecies of *Pliocercus* are now known from Mexico, about 11 are to be expected, and, of course, more may occur.